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## Legislative Oversight Committee



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**Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 28, 2016**  
**12:15 p.m.**  
**Room 110 - Blatt Building**

### **ARCHIVED VIDEO AVAILABLE**

- I. You may access archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and click on "Citizens' Interests," then click on "House Legislative Oversight Committee Postings and Reports." Lastly, click on "Video Archives" for a listing of archived videos for the Legislative Oversight Committee.

### **ATTENDANCE**

- I. The Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice Subcommittee (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chair Kirkman Finlay III on Thursday, January 28, 2016, in Room 110 of the Blatt Building, Columbia, South Carolina. The following Subcommittee Members were present: Subcommittee Chair Finlay, Representative William K. Bowers, Representative Raye Felder, and Representative Edward R. Tallon Sr.
- II. Katherine Pearson (Director of Constituent Services) was present on behalf of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

### **MINUTES**

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires the standing committees of the House to prepare and make available for public inspection, in compliance with Section 30-4-90, the minutes of full committee meetings. House Rule 4.5 further provides that such minutes need not be verbatim accounts of such meetings. It is the practice of the House Legislative Oversight Committee to provide minutes, which are not verbatim accounts of such meetings, for its Subcommittee meetings.

- II. Representative Felder moved to approve the minutes from the Subcommittee meeting on December 2, 2015. Chairman Finlay seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held, and all present voted in favor of approval.

<b>Rep. Felder’s Motion to Approve the Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2015:</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Rep. Bowers	✓		
Rep. Felder	✓		
Rep. Tallon	✓		
Chair Finlay	✓		

**DISCUSSION OF STUDY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

- I. Chairman Finlay explained that the purpose of the meeting was to continue the Subcommittee’s discussion of the DJJ, and to determine other questions, if any, that the Subcommittee would like to ask of the agency. He also gave a summary of the agency’s place in the oversight process and of the Subcommittee’s goals for the agency.

Chairman Finlay asked whether there were any scheduling conflicts that would prevent the Subcommittee from taking testimony from members of the public on February 10, 2016.

- II. Representative Felder expressed her concern that not enough detail had been provided to the Subcommittee in response to one of its questions of the agency. Chairman Finlay commented that he felt that the DJJ had not been providing the context in its answers necessary for the Subcommittee to make the best use of the DJJ’s answers.

Subcommittee Chair Finlay swore under oath Katherine Pearson.

Chairman Finlay and Representative Felder asked questions of Katherine Pearson relating to the agency’s non-compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act in terms of the shifts and staffing ratio of guards to inmates and in terms of the sex requirements for guards performing searches of inmates, and requested more specific information from the agency.

Chairman Finlay asked Katherine Pearson to explain what the agency does with the money allocated to the agency for staffing that isn’t spent due to a substantial number of unfilled agency positions, and Ms. Pearson testified that she was not able to answer the question at that time.

Chairman Finlay asked Katherine Pearson about the dates on which the DJJ’s facilities were first opened.

Chairman Finlay and Representative Felder asked for more information relating to the unused land footprint at all of the DJJ’s facilities and whether some of the DJJ’s operations could be consolidated so as to reduce the land area the agency uses to operate.

Chairman Finlay told Katherine Pearson that the Subcommittee would submit these and other questions to the agency in writing subsequent to the meeting.

II. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.